

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-03 NEA-06 COA-01 OES-02

PM-03 SP-02 NSC-05 INR-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

AF-04 RSC-01 L-01 /061 W

----- 127131

R 011738Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7855

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 01600

LIMDIS

USUN PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR STEVENSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: BILATERAL LOS DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS

1. SUMMARY: US AND SOVIET LOS TEAMS HELD USEFUL DISCUSSIONS ON STRAITS AND ARCHIPELAGIC TACTICS AND MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. SOVIETS AGREED TO PLAY DOWN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US IN EVENSEN GROUP DISCUSSION OF MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

2. JOHN NORTON MOORE, THE DEPUTY SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, STUART FRENCH, THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, AND ADMIRAL MAX MORRIS, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF

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THE JOINT CHIEFS FOR LOS MET WITH ROMANOV, THE DEPUTY

CHIEF OF THE LEGAL DIVISION OF THE USSR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINISTRY AND CAPTAIN NOZERENKO OF THE USSR NAVY MINISTRY  
TO DISCUSS A RANGE OF ISSUED IN THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS.

3. IT WAS TENTATIVELY AGREED THAT THE US AND THE  
USSR WOULD MEET FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON LOS ISSUES  
AT 10:00 AM ON THURSDAY, FEB 6 AT THE US MISSION TO THE  
UN IN NEW YORK.

4. MOORE INDICATED THAT HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR  
THE USSR TO DISCUSS EXTENSION OF THE ARCHIPELAGO  
PRINCIPLE TO THE BAHAMAS WITH CUBA AT AN EARLY TIME.  
ROMANOV INDICATED IN RESPONSE THAT THEY WOULD EXPECT  
TO DISCUSS THE ARCHIPELAGO PRINCIPLE WITH THE CUBANS  
IN NEW YORK AND HE INQUIRED WHETHER THE BAHAMIANS  
WOULD BE APPROACHING THE CUBANS. HE CLEARLY IMPLIED  
THAT AN EARLY APPROACH BY THE BAHAMIANS TO CUBA WOULD  
BE USEFUL IN COORDINATING THE ARCHIPELAGO INITIATIVE.

5. BOTH SIDES DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF OAU, LATIN  
AND ARAB SUPPORT FOR UMIMPEDED TRANSIT OF STRAITS  
AND WAYS TO ENCOURAGE SUPPORT WITHIN THE GROUP. THE  
SOVIETS INDICATED THEY HAD APPROACHED SENEGAL, LIBYA,  
IRAQ AND GREECE AND PLANNED TO APPROACH SYRIA. THEY  
ALSO INDICATED THEY HAD PLANS TO DISCUSS STRAITS WITH THE  
SPANISH IN MOSCOW IN JANUARY BUT THAT FOR THE SECOND TIME  
THE SPANISH CANCELLED OUT AT THE LAST MINUTE.

6. IN CONNECTION WITH ARAB SUPPORT ON STRAITS THE  
SOVIETS INDICATED THE ARABS HAD ACCEPTED THEIR ARTICLE  
TWO APPLYING NON-SUSPENDABLE INNOCENT PASSAGE TO STRAIT  
CONNECTING HIGH SEAS TO THE TERRITORIAL SEA OF A FOREIGN  
STATE. MOORE INQUIRED WHAT ARAB STATES THE SOVIETS  
HAD CONSULTED AND ROMANOV RESPONDED EGYPT BUT THAT THEY  
WERE NOW ALSO COORDINATING WITH OTHER ARAB STATES.  
MOORE INDICATED IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE SOVIETS  
COULD PASS ALONG TO US OTHER ARAB REACTIONS TO THE SOVIET  
ARTICLE TWO. ROMANOV ALSO INDICATED THAT THE SOVIETS  
HAD MADE CLEAR TO THE ARABS THAT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR  
ARTICLE TWO WAS PREMISED ON ARAB SUPPORT FOR FREE

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TRANSIT IN STRAITS CONNECTING HIGH SEAS TO HIGH SEAS.

7. TWO SIDES ALSO HELD DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS OF DANISH  
STRAITS AND SIX MILE EXCEPTION. SOVIET INDICATED THEY  
WERE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO RESOLVE SWEDISH, FINNISH AND  
DANISH STRAITS PROBLEMS. MOORE SUGGESTED WE MIGHT RESUME  
OUR DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES AT UPCOMING BILATERAL  
TALKS IN NEW YORK.

8. MOORE RAISED IMPORTANCE OF COORDINATING OUR POSITIONS  
ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND IN THIS CONNECTION  
MADE TWO PRINCIPAL POINTS. FIRST WE UNDERSTOOD FROM  
PRIOR DISCUSSION WITH KOVOLEV IN LONDON THAT SOVIETS  
ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO SOME FORM OF CONSENT REGIME

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LIMDIS

ON SHELF. NEVERTHELESS IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT SOVIETS  
NOT PRESS THEIR DIFFERENCE WITH US IN THIS AREA DURING  
EVENSEN GROUP MEETING SINCE ANY SOVIET ARGUMENTS FOR  
CONSENT REGIME ON SHELF IN EVENSEN GROUP WOULD BE  
LIKELY TO PREJUDICE POSITION OF BOTH STATES IN WATER  
COLUMN AND IN AREA BEYOND ECONOMIC ZONE. ROMANOV IN-  
DIcATED HE UNDERSTOOD IMPORTANCE OF UNIFIED POSITION  
AND THAT HE SAW NO NEED TO EMPHASIZE OUR DIFFERENCES

IN EVENSEN GROUP. SECOND, MOORE INDICATED IT WAS  
IMPORTANT THAT IF POSSIBLE WE DEVELOP A POSITION ON  
SHELF RESEARCH WHICH MEETS CONCERNS OF BOTH US AND USSR  
AND THAT IN THIS CONNECTION WE WOULD LIKE SOVIET REACTION  
TO A PROPOSAL HE WAS PRESENTING ON A PURELY PERSONAL  
BASIS. PROPOSAL WAS: DID SOVIETS SEE ANY WAY OF HAVING  
A SHELF REGIME WHICH WOULD PERMIT COASTAL STATE TO  
REFUSE RESEARCH IF CERTAIN SPECIFIED TREATY CONDITIONS  
WERE NOT MET BUT WHICH WOULD NOT REQUIRE COASTAL STATE

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PERMISSION BEFORE UNDERTAKING RESEARCH. ROMANOV SEEMED  
TO FULLY GRASP MEANING OF PERSONAL SUGGESTION AND IN-  
DIATED THAT AFTER THE IDEA WAS STUDIED BY THE APPROPRI-  
ATE MINISTRIES HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH. ROMANOV ALSO  
INQUIRED WHETHER THE PROPOSAL WOULD APPLY ONLY IN THE  
ECONOMIC ZONE OR ON SHELF BEYOND. MOORE INDICATED THAT  
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD IT APPLY IN INTERNATIONAL  
AREA AND THAT WE MIGHT BE MORE RELAXED IF IT APPLIED  
ONLY TO THE ECONOMIC ZONE RATHER THAN ANY AREA OF  
NATIONAL SEABED JURISDICTION BEYOND.

9. IN VIEW OF CANADIAN DESIRE THAT WE NOT RAISE  
ARCTIC POLLUTION PROPOSAL WITH SOVIETS AT THIS TIME WE  
DID NOT RAISE OR DISCUSS THIS ISSUE AT MEETING.

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## Message Attributes

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